## The $a^{2}+b^{2}=c^{2}$


b

## This is a right triangle:



## We call it a right triangle

 because it contains a right angle.
# The measure of a right angle is $90^{\circ}$ 



# The little square in the angle tells you it is a right angle. 



About 2,500 years ago, a Greek mathematician named Pythagorus discovered a special relationship between the sides of right triangles.

Pythagorus realized that if you have a right triangle,

and you square the lengths of the two sides that make up the right angle,


$$
3^{2} 4^{2}
$$

## and add them together,


$3^{2}+4^{2}$
you get the same number you would get by squaring the other side.

$3^{2}+4^{2}=5^{2}$

## Is that correct?

$3^{2}+4^{2} \stackrel{?}{=} 5^{2}$

$$
9+16 \stackrel{?}{=} 25
$$

## It is. And it is true for any right triangle. <br> $6^{2}+8^{2}=10^{2}$ <br> 8 <br> 6

The two sides which come together in a right angle are called

The two sides which come together in a right angle are called legs

## The lengths of the legs are usually called $a$ and $b$.



# The side across from the right angle is called the 

 hypotenuse.

And the length of the hypotenuse
is usually labeled $c$.


## The relationship Pythagorus discovered is now called The Pythagorean Theorem.



## The Pythagorean Theorem

 says, given the right triangle with legs $a$ and $b$ and hypotenuse $c$,

## then $a^{2}+b^{2}=c^{2}$.



You can use The Pythagorean Theorem to solve many kinds of problems.

48

# Suppose you drive directly west for 48 miles, 

## Then you turn south and drive for 36 miles.

$$
36 \underset{ }{\square}
$$

## How far are you from where you started?



## Using The Pythagorean

 Theorem,$$
48^{2}+36^{2}=c^{2}
$$



## Why?

Can you see that we have a right triangle?

$$
48^{2}+36^{2}=c^{2}
$$

48

$$
36
$$

36
c

Which sides are the legs? Which side is the hypotenuse?


## Then all we need to do is calculate:

$48^{2}+36^{2}=2304+1296=$
$3600=c^{2}$

## So, since $c^{2}$ is $3600, c$ is 60.

 And you end up 60 miles from where you started. 48

## Find the length of a

 diagonal of the rectangle:15"


## Find the length of a diagonal of the rectangle:

15"


$$
a=15
$$

## $a^{2}+b^{2}=c^{2}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 15^{2}+8^{2}=c^{2} \\
& 225+64=c^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
c^{2}=289
$$

$$
c=17
$$



## Find the length of a diagonal of the rectangle:

15"


## Practice using

The Pythagorean Theorem
to solve these right triangles:

b


$$
\begin{array}{cc} 
& b=24 \\
a^{2}+b^{2}=c^{2} & \text { (c) } \\
10^{2}+b^{2}=26^{2} & \\
100+b^{2}=676 \\
b^{2}=676-100 & b=24 \\
b^{2}=576
\end{array}
$$

$12$


